

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
DODE-00 /060 W
-----087630 270134Z /64

R 261458Z JUL 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5077
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

S E C R E T NATO 07204

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJECT: MBFR: RED DATA

1. AT FRIDAY, JULY 22 SPC MEETING, ITALIAN REP (SFARA)
PROPOSED A NEW VARIATION OF THE PROPOSAL THAT THE NAC
AUTHORIZE THE AHG TO USE RED DATA WITH THE EAST ON A
SELECTIVE BASIS. THE AHG WOULD ONLY INDICATE GROSSO MODO
THE SIZE OF THE DISCREPANCY BETWEEN A PARTICULAR EASTERN
FIGURE, AND THE WESTERN ESTIMATE OF THAT FIGURE: E.G.,
QUOTE ABOUT 2500 END QUOTE.

2. CANADIAN (BARTLEMAN), UK (JANVRIN), DUTCH (KUTHE) AND
US (MOORE) REPS OPPOSED AUTHORIZING THE AHG TO USE ANY RED
DATA AT THIS TIME, ON GROUNDS THAT THIS WOULD ENABLE THE
EAST TO SHIFT THE FOCUS FROM EXPLANATION OF ITS OWN DATA
TO AN ATTACK ON WESTERN ESTIMATES OF THAT DATA. LATEST
ITALIAN SUGGESTION WOULD ENABLE THE EAST TO CREATE SUCH
A DIVERSION.

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3. FRG REP (CITRON) SAID THE FRG WOULD SUPPORT THE
ITALIAN SUGGESTION. THE AHG NEEDS TO BE ABLE TO DO AT
LEAST THAT MUCH TO CHALLENGE PARTICULAR EASTERN FIGURES.
UK REP POINTED OUT THAT THE AHG COULD ALREADY, WITHOUT
NEW GUIDANCE, POINT OUT TO THE EAST THAT A PARTICULAR
FIGURE WHICH THE EAST MIGHT TABLE DIFFERED SIGNIFICANTLY
FROM WHAT WE THOUGHT THAT FIGURE WAS. US REP AGREED WITH

UK REP.

4. FRG REP OBSERVED THAT IF THE AHG MADE A VERBAL COMMENT TO THE EAST THAT A PARTICULAR EASTERN FIGURE WAS MUCH LARGER THAN WE THOUGHT IT WAS, THE EAST COULD STILL TRY TO SHIFT THE FOCUS OF THE DISCUSSION TO AN ATTACK ON SUCH A STATEMENT. THE EAST WOULD ASK THE AHG TO PROVE IT, SO WHY SHOULDN'T THE NAC AUTHORIZE THE AHG TO USE RED DATA ON A SELECTIVE BASIS AND IN AN APPROXIMATIVE WAY, AS ITALIAN REP HAD PROPOSED. ITALIAN REP NOTED THAT THE EAST IS ALREADY CHALLENGING THE WEST TO SUBMIT THE CONCRETE FIGURES FOR ITS UPDATED ESTIMATES OF PACT MANPOWER. US REP NOTED THAT IT WAS TRUE THAT THE EAST COULD CHALLENGE VERBAL STATEMENTS BY THE AHG THAT A PARTICULAR EASTERN FIGURE DIFFERED FROM WHAT WE THOUGHT IT WAS, AND COULD CHALLENGE THE WEST TO PUT DOWN A SPECIFIC NUMBER. HOWEVER, ONCE WE PUT DOWN AN ESTIMATE OF AN EASTERN FIGURE, EVEN AN APPROXIMATE ONE, ONCE WE GIVE THEM A NUMBER TO WORK WITH, WE OPEN NEW LINES OF ATTACK FOR THE EAST, AND GIVE THEM A REAL OPPORTUNITY TO SHIFT THE DISCUSSION AWAY FROM EASTERN EXPLANATION OF EASTERN TABLED DATA.

5. CANADIAN REP AND BELGIAN REP (CROLLEN) OBSERVED THAT IT WAS PREMATURE TO CONSIDER GIVING AHG AUTHORITY TO USE RED DATA. BELGIAN REP TOLD US PRIVATELY THAT ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT HAVE INSTRUCTIONS, HE WAS SURE THAT BELGIUM WOULD AGREE WITH THE US ON THIS ISSUE.

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6. THE SUBJECT OF USE OF RED DATA WITH THE EAST DID NOT ARISE AT THE SPC MEETING ON MONDAY, JULY 25. THIS ISSUE IS NOW DROPPED FROM THE SPC AGENDA FOR THE TIME BEING.

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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
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SAS ID: 1740868
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: PARM, NATO
To: SECSTATE WASHDC WASHDC MULTIPLE
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